



English 9: Freshman English – 1 Credit
Mrs. Bowling 📖 Room 230
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Welcome to Team 9B. I'm looking forward to a great year together!

Mission Statement:

"Windham High School strives to personalize the educational experience for all students through smaller learning communities in an effort to create autonomous learners. Our classrooms integrate twenty-first century skills through the authentic application of knowledge with extensive community involvement. The foundation for our career academies' pathways is rigor, relevance, and relationships. WHS embraces the spirit of multiculturalism in a safe environment of readiness, respect, and responsibility for all members of our diverse community."

Earning Credit:

Credits are earned by passing classes with **at least** a 60%. You need a certain number of credits to graduate from high school, including **four (4) credits of English**. That means you must take—and pass—at least one credit of English each year. To pass a class, you must make good choices. This includes arriving in class on time, paying respectful attention and participating in class, doing your homework, and studying before tests and quizzes. Even on nights when there is no homework, you should spend some time reviewing what you did in class that day to make sure you understand it.

If you miss a lot of class, or are late a lot, it can result in loss of credit. If you do not pass a required class (such as English), you will not be able to graduate until you make it up. **The choices you make every day about readiness, respect and responsibility affect your success at the high school. Make good choices!**

About English 9:

This course is designed to help students develop skills in reading, writing, and thinking critically. We will read a variety of literature including poetry, novels, short stories, news articles, plays, and song lyrics. We will study vocabulary, along with grammar and usage, in order to improve reading and writing skills. We will learn to take the important lessons from the literature we study and apply it to our everyday lives. We will create, revise and develop different types of writing for different purposes.

What to Bring to Class Each Day:

- 📖 Current text
- 📖 English notebook
- 📖 Pen or pencil
- 📖 Homework

What to Have at Home:

- 📖 A binder or folder where returned English work can be stored—you will need it in order to study for quizzes and tests!

How to Succeed

- 📖 Remember the three Rs of success:
Readiness, Respect, and Responsibility
- 📖 Participate to the best of your ability
- 📖 Work as hard as you can. Push yourself!

- 📖 Come to class on time.
- 📖 Ask for help when you need it.
- 📖 Respect yourself, other members of our classroom community, and your learning environment.

Grading

Your grades in English class will be broken down into the following parts:

Class Participation	15%	Writing (journals, prompts, etc.)	15%
Homework	15%	Quizzes	18%
Classwork	15%	Tests	22%

Attendance

Regular attendance is *very* important in order to be successful in school. If you are absent from school, you should bring in a note excusing your absence when you return. Please make sure to bring your note to Ms. Socquet in room 102A. Excessive absences can result in loss of course credit...be careful!

When you are out, ***it is your responsibility to make up any work that you miss***. See me before or after class, or before or after school, to arrange for makeup work. You may also call the office and ask for work to be collected in your absence.

In English, you will have an amount of time equal to your absence to make up work. (For example, if you miss two days, you will have two days to make up your work.) If you are absent on the day a test or quiz is given, or a project is due, you will owe that work upon your return. You may make arrangements to make up tests or quizzes before or after school or during a study hall.

Be on time for class! It will be hard to find your way around during the first couple weeks, but after that, the building will make sense and you'll know where you're going. You must be in your classes when the bell rings to receive credit for arriving on time.

Come to class! If you choose not to come to class when you are not excused from it, you are skipping. Skipping results in an office referral and a call home. In addition, you will receive a zero for any work due on that day and will not be allowed to make up work you missed on that day. It's not worth it. Please make sure you are in class unless you have an excused reason not to be!

Academic Honesty

In order for you to truly learn, your work must be your own. The two following issues relate to academic honesty:

📖 ***Plagiarism*** is the use of someone else's words, thoughts or ideas without giving them credit. An example of this would be copying and pasting information from an Internet article and presenting it as your own work; another example is to use a quote from someone without saying it's their quote.

📖 ***Cheating*** is taking someone else's answers and presenting them as your own. Examples are copying someone else's homework, or copying someone else's answers on a test.

Neither plagiarism, nor cheating, will be tolerated. If plagiarism or cheating happen, the result will be an office referral, contact home to parent/guardian, and an immediate zero on the work.

Homework:

Homework will be assigned regularly in order to reinforce and develop what we've done in class. It is important to do your homework on time, and to do your very best on it. Please keep track of your homework in the planner provided by Windham High School.

Extra Help:

If you do not understand something, extra help is available! Everything we learn in freshman English builds on what we've already learned, so if there's something you don't understand, it's really important to get help as soon as possible. I am available to help most days before school, or after school on Tuesday through Friday, to provide you with extra help. (On Mondays, teachers are in meetings right after school so there's usually no after-school help on those days.)

You can also get a lunch pass from me so that you can bring your lunch to our classroom and get extra help while you eat. Please see me at the beginning of the day, or at the beginning of lunch, to ask for a lunch pass.

Electronics

In order for you to learn in class, you must be able to pay attention. Cell phones, MP3 players and other electronic devices distract your attention from what is happening in the classroom. School rules state that electronics are not to be used during the school day. If I see an electronic device, I will keep it for you until the end of class. If this becomes a regular issue, electronics will be turned over to the Assistant Principal's office. Please make sure your electronics are in your backpack, or better yet...leave them at home!

Hats, Hoods, etc.

School rules state that hats, hoods, bandanas and other head coverings are not to be worn during the school day; therefore, they may not be worn in our classroom. Please make sure head coverings are off your head. If you wish, you may leave them on my desk until the end of class.

Wikispace:

This syllabus, as well as homework assignments and other relevant information, will be posted on the classroom wikispace. It can be accessed at <http://bowlingalley230.wikispaces.com>.

Dear Parent or Guardian:

This page is your child's first homework assignment for English class. Please review the syllabus with your child and discuss the expectations for learning as outlined in the syllabus. Afterwards, please fill out this page and return it to school with your child for his or her first homework grade.

Please know that I am always available to answer your questions or concerns. I feel that a strong partnership between home and school helps students to succeed, and therefore I encourage frequent communication. I will contact you to share successes and concerns about your student, and I want you to feel free to do the same. I can be reached by telephone through the school office at (860) 465-2460 or by email at dbowling@windham.k12.ct.us. If you call and leave me a message at school, I will make every effort to contact you during a free period, at the end of the school day, or later that evening, so please make sure to tell me what the best time for a callback is.

Student Section: (Please check off each item and sign at the end)

- ☐ I understand that Mrs. Bowling expects my best efforts at learning.
- ☐ I understand that I must arrive to class on time, and prepared to learn.
- ☐ I understand that I am responsible for making up any work missed on the day of an excused absence in a timely fashion.
- ☐ I understand that I must use my own words on all assignments; I cannot use the words of others without giving them credit.
- ☐ I understand that there is no room for plagiarism or cheating in class or on assignments.
- ☐ I understand that electronics and head coverings are against the rules and that I should not have them out during class.
- ☐ I understand that if I have a question, Mrs. Bowling is available to give me extra help; all I have to do is ask!
- ☐ I understand that I must pass English 9, and not lose credit because of attendance issues, in order to receive 1 English credit towards graduation.
- ☐ I understand that I need 4 credits of English to graduate from high school.
- ☐ I understand that I am expected to behave in a way that is respectful of myself, others, and my classroom environment.
- ☐ I understand that I am a part of a team. As team members, we have the power to help each other succeed!

Student Name (Print)

Student Name (Signature)

Parent/Guardian Section: (Please check off each item and fill out the information at the end)

- ☐ My student and I have reviewed the syllabus together
- ☐ I understand the expectations for my student's successful participation in English 9
- ☐ I know how to contact Ms. Bowling if I have any questions or comments, and understand that I am welcome to do so at any time.

Parent/Guardian Name (Printed)

Parent/Guardian Name (Signature)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Work Phone

E-mail address

Best way to contact me: ☐ Telephone (home, cell, or work?) ☐ Email